



TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

6826 Avenue 240 ♦ Tulare, California 93274 ♦ Telephone (559) 686-3425

April 8, 2011

Baryohay Davidoff
Department of Water Resources
901 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Agriculture Water Measurement Regulation

Dear Mr. Davidoff:

On behalf of the Tulare Irrigation District I would like to provide a recommendation when pursuing the implementation of water measurement regulations on irrigation districts like Tulare Irrigation District (Tulare ID). In our inventory of approximately 550 active turnouts, Tulare ID serves acreages ranging from 1 acre up to 200+ acres through each individual turnout. As the legislation and regulations being developed seek water use efficiency improvements and the subsequent water conservation, Tulare ID feels that turnouts serving acreages less than 10 acres have little to no incremental benefits to water conservation.

Most of our turnouts that serve acreages less than 10 acres are small family farms consisting mainly of a residence and potentially a small tree farm or pasture. The amount of water used by these small acreages is very minimal compared to our larger farming entities. The need to monitor and calibrate the measurement devices on these turnouts would also add a financial burden without yielding much benefit. Tulare ID would like to request that the Department of Water Resources adopt an exemption of regulations for those turnouts that serve acreages less than 10 acres.

We greatly appreciate your time and effort on this issue. If you have any further questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at akf@tulareid.org.

Sincerely,

Aaron Fukuda
District Engineer